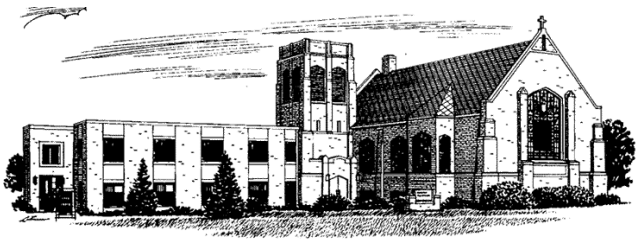


SARON NEWSLETTER

Saron Evangelical Lutheran Church (ELCA)
510 Main Street
St. Joseph, Michigan 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email: info@saronlutheran.org
Phone: 269-983-1273
Facebook: www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

June 2017

The Rev. Joan Oleson, Pastor
Home: 269-983-2475
Email: oleson@saronlutheran.org

Marcus Roll, Senior Choir Director,
Bell Choir Director
Email: roll1mc@gmail.com
Irma Gorman, Organist
Margaret Froehlich, Administrative Assistant
Nanci Fenrick, Financial Secretary
Danielle Hohman, Child Care

Sundays at Saron:
During the School Year:
8:30 & 11:00 A.M. Worship
Childcare provided
9:40 Learning for Ages 2 – Adult

Summers (thru Labor Day weekend):
9:30 Holy Communion
Childcare provided
No Learning Hour

All are welcome!
We hold in prayer:
The Rev. Elizabeth Eaton,
Presiding Bishop, ELCA
The Rev. Dr. Craig Satterlee, Bishop of the
North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA
The Rev. Whayne Hougland, Bishop of the Episcopal
Diocese of Western MI

Our Companion Synods:
Christian Lutheran Church of Honduras
Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea
Lutheran Church of Latvia

Saron's Mission:
Joyfully sharing God's love for all!!

Rev. Sarah Friesen-Carper

New members – Don & Carol Hafer

Rev. David Slater

Caring and Sharing

In Our Prayers –

We remember in our thoughts and prayers: **Arla Huelsberg** is at the Whitcomb Tower Retirement Center, St. Joseph; **Lila Roethel** is at the Willows; and **Bernice Koski** is at Woodland Terrace.

Serving in the military:
Andy Wedde – **California**

Office Hours at Saron
Margaret (secretary): Mon-Tues, 9 AM - 1 PM
Weds of Newsletter Week, 9 AM - 1 PM
Volunteers: Weds, 9:30 AM - 11 AM+
Nanci (financial secretary): Weds aft
Call for other times/changes
Pastor: is on Sabbatical until July 24th
When Pastor is out of town, emergency pastoral care information can be obtained by calling the church office (983.1273) or contacting the president of the congregation.
Note: E-mails meant for Pastor should be addressed to oleson@saronlutheran.org. E-mails to Margaret and the church office should be addressed to info@saronlutheran.org.

Happy Birthday Wishes to Saron's Members in June 2017

June 2 – Daniel Gustafson
Ann Dosch
3 - Steve Hall
4 – June Embree
5 – Judith Huff
Rebecca Schmidt
6 - Danielle Hohman
7 - Elinor Van Egmond
11 - Tyler Cook
12 - Deborah Vollmer
Cynthia Schmidt
Stephania Ngonyani
15 - Hunter Zwar
16 - Marilyn Frey
18 - Rebeccah Strine
James Peterson
19 - Ken Ark
20 - Cami Ashley
22 - Larry Weber
23 – Christopher Cox
24 – Marlene Schalon
Elizabeth Lundgren
26 – Phillip Preston
27 – Bill Teal
29 – David Young
30 – Dena Nesbitt

"God's Blessings for a very happy day and year round"

Happy Anniversary Wishes to Saron's Members In June.

June 1 - Brian and Coanne Hohman
2 - Robert and Deanna Deaton
13 – Bruce and Linda Huff
14 –Gene and June Embree (65)
16 – David and Kathie Bradley
17 - Pastor Gary and Kathy Cowall (50)
Pastor Joan and Jim Oleson
21 – Dan and Suzanne Fortenbacher
26 – Robert Gulley and Kirsten Talbert
Andrew and Joyce Marquardt
28 - James and Gayle Peterson
30 - William and Janet Oleson (55)

If there is anyone who has been omitted, or, if the dates are incorrect from the birthday and anniversary list, please call the church office at 983-1273. Thank you

SABBATICAL NEWS

Pastor's sabbatical begins April 24 and extends through July 23. Supply pastors have been secured, and pastoral care arrangements are in place.

For Non-Emergencies, contact one of the following:
Karen Hinckley 269/326-0688
Jan Stevens 269/429-2044
Janet Oleson 269/428-7442
In an Emergency, contact
Karen Hinckley 269/326-0688
The Rev. David Slater 269/281-0848

These numbers are important as during Pastor's sabbatical she will not be available to take phone calls, make calls and visits, or preside at funerals. Other arrangements have been made for each of these occasions, as needed. She will reply to e-mails upon her return. If you have a need, you can e-mail the church office where the e-mail will be checked regularly. If you have any questions, you can ask any council member.

A devotional by Saron was sent out to Saron members. If you did not receive a copy, contact Saron and we will arrange for you to receive a copy. A copy of the books that Pastor is reading on sabbatical is on the table in the narthex. They are there for your perusal and/or borrowing.

If you have any questions, please contact any member of the sabbatical planning team including Kerrie Hoodlebrink, and Mary Alice Brunner. They'd be happy to try and answer your questions and receive your thoughts.

Sabbatical Fund
Submitted by Mary Alice Brunner
Some members of the congregation have asked about making voluntary contributions to a sabbatical fund for Pastor Oleson, to help with expenses in excess of what is already available in the Continuing Education budget. In response to this request, a Sabbatical Fund has been established and anyone wishing to make voluntary contributions to this fund may do so by writing "Sabbatical Fund" on the memo line of their check.

Worship

SUNDAY SCRIPTURE READINGS
As you prepare for worship, you are invited to read and reflect on the Scriptures for the day.

Sunday June 4 –
Day of Pentecost
Acts 2:1-21
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b
1 Corinthians 12:3b-13
John 20:19-23

Sunday June 11 –
Holy Trinity
Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a
Psalm 8
2 Corinthians 13:11-13
Matthew 28:16-20

Sunday June 18 –
Second Sunday of Pentecost
Exodus 19:2-8a
Psalm 100
Romans 5:1-8
Matthew 9:35---10:9-23

Sunday June 25 –
Third Sunday of Pentecost
Jeremiah 20:7-13
Psalm 69:7-18
Romans 6:1-11
Matthew 10:24-39

Nursery Help Needed
We always welcome more volunteers for the nursery. If you can help, please sign up at church or let Marilyn Lucy or Krin Jurgensen know of your willingness.

PRAYER GROUP
Join us on Mondays at 11:00 a.m. for a time of quiet reflection and prayer, which includes lifting up the requests offered on Sundays at worship. We meet in the sanctuary.

A word from Father Martin
In commemoration of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation celebrated this year, we hear a word attributed to Father Martin:

June 4
When schools flourish, all flourishes.

June 11
We must make a great difference between God's Word and the word of man. A man's word is a little sound, that flies into the air, and soon vanishes; but the World of God is greater than heaven and earth, yea, greater than death and hell, for it forms part of the power of God, and endures everlastingly.

June 18
"The first thing I ask is that people should not make use of my name, and should not call themselves Lutherans, but Christians. What is Luther? The teaching is not mine. Nor was I crucified for anyone. St. Paul, in 1 Corinthians 3, would not tolerate Christians calling themselves Pauls or Peters, but only Christians. How did I, poor stinking bag of maggots that I am, come to the point where people call the children of Christ by my evil name?"

June 25
Temptations, of course, cannot be avoided, but because we cannot prevent the birds from flying over our heads, there is no need that we should let them nest in our hair.

Learning book of faith

Open Scripture. Join the Conversation.

Saron is a congregation seeking to become more fluent in the first language of faith, the language of Scripture, in order that we might live into our calling as a people renewed, enlivened, empowered and sent by the Word.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

A "Color Fest" comes to Saron July 31-August 3. It will take place from 6:30-8:30 PM; ages Kdg – 5th grade, completed. Invite a friend! For more information contact Kristen Harper or Amanda Bradley

Tuesday Mornings at the Beach

Begin your day with prayer and Bible study at the beach this summer! Bring your travel cup of coffee or tea, a jacket, and your Bible for a gathering on Tuesday mornings at 8:30, beginning May 30. We meet at Lions Park Beach in Saint Joseph. Plan to get your free parking pass (as a St Joseph resident) at City Hall, take a brief walk after parking down Lions Park Drive, arrange to car pool from the church, or pay the $5 daily parking fee. A season pass for $40 is also available. Questions? Contact **Darlene Kiessel (269-313-4062).**

Wednesday Bible Study

Join us again in the Fall.

SUMMER BEACH WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Once again, Saron members and friends can take advantage of the beauty of Lake Michigan as a setting for informal summer worship. Once a month – June 14, July 12, and August 9, all Wednesday nights -- we will gather at Lion's Park Beach for a picnic supper at 6:00 p.m., followed by worship at 7:00 p.m. The church will provide hot dogs, brats, condiments, chips, and lemonade. Others are invited to bring a dish to share. We are looking forward to seeing everyone there!

Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study

Saron's Tuesday Evening Men's Bible Study meets at 6:00 p.m. at the church. David Slater leads us in our studies. At 7:00 p.m. we adjourn for a time of fellowship. All men are invited to join us. As the Bible says "As iron sharpens iron, so one person sharpens another" (Proverbs 27:17). For more information call Bob Kynast at 269-921-2786 or David Slater at 269-281-0848.

EPHESUS BIBLE STUDY GROUP

The Ephesus group meets approximately once each month at various homes. For details of their next gathering, please contact the church office or watch your bulletin for news.

Men's monthly Bible Devotions and Breakfast

There will be NO Men's Bible Devotions/Breakfast during the summer months, we will resume again in October.

1ST SUNDAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

We will not meet again for book discussions until Sunday, October 1st. Look in the August Newsletter to find the list of books we have chosen for our next session. Until then, have a summer of great reading!

" I think of life as a good book. The further you get into it, the more it begins to make sense". (Harold Kushner)

Support

A Special Message for Travelers and Those Who Prefer Electronic Giving

Saron offers the option to give electronically for your convenience. Please contact the church office if you have any questions or to enroll. Thanks.

STOCK DONATIONS

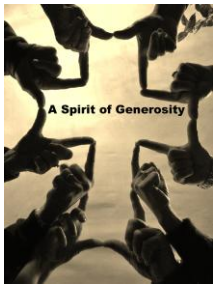
Saron partners with Scottrade, a brokerage firm, to accept stock donations. If you would like to donate stock, contact our representative, Bill Fuentas, at (574) 272-1980. The statements we receive from Scottrade do not identify who donated the stock so please notify Eric Standen or Nanci Fenrick when you have donated. This allows us to complete the transaction and to be sure it's added to your giving statement. If you have further questions or concerns contact Eric Standen or Nanci Fenrick.

Hospitality

Sign Up for Refreshments

Please consider signing up for refreshments to be served after worship on Sundays. There is a sign-up sheet on the Narthex bulletin board.

STEWARDS OF GOD'S LOVE



….with glad and generous hearts, praising God …. Acts 2:46c

"Gracious God, give us generous hearts:
To share whatever gift it is that you have given to us;
To acknowledge you as the giver of all good gifts;
To be happy with having what we need and wise enough to know
what it is that we want and do not need;
To grow in giving thanks for everything." Amen.*

We thank everyone for all your continued stewardship of time, talents, and treasure. God's work, Our Hands.

**www.sistersofcharityhealth.org/blog/post/2012/09/25/Prayer for today-prayer of generosity*

Outreach

Benton Harbor Soup Kitchen-

LARGE or SMALL cans of fruit, for use at the Soup Kitchen, are always needed.
Thank you very much, Jan Stevens

SPRING CLEANING

Spring is coming and it is time to CLEAN, you know those drawers and boxes that you were going to look into and get rid of things that you no longer wear or fit into. Now, in all of your "cleaning" if you happen to come across glasses that you no longer use or they have gone out of style, please consider bringing them into Saron and putting them into the Lions Eye Glass box, in the Narthex. They can be reused by someone who needs them! Thank you,
St. Joseph Township Lions

SW MI Human Trafficking Task Force

Saron is a member of the SW MI Human Trafficking Task Force. The task force provides training to our local medical personnel and law inforcement officers .These training events provide information about Human Trafficking -what signs to look for , how to stop it, and how to help the victims.

Saron can help raise funds, to hold these events. A Kalamazoo company called Opulent Blends has made bars of soap for the Human Trafficking Task Force

The soap is called "Sweet Smell of Surviving". The cost is $6.00 a bar or 2 bars for $10.00. ALL PROCEEDS GO TO THE TASK FORCE!!
The soap will be available in the narthex.
Thank you for supporting this Outreach opportunity.
Any Questions, ask Jan Stevens

LWR Fair Trade

We support Lutheran World Relief Fair Trade farmers through our selling of coffee, tea, and cocoa at cost. We have flavored coffee, decaf, medium and dark roast coffees, black and green teas, and now we are offering Keurig cups. Please support this ministry by purchasing these products regularly for yourself and as gifts. Thank you.

BLOOD DRIVE

Michigan Blood will hold a BLOOD DRIVE at Saron on **MONDAY, JUNE 19 from 2-6pm.** Mark your calendar NOW, to give the GIFT OF LIFE.
Thank you, Keith Stevens and Marilyn Lucy

For two or more weeks before you donate, eat foods that are rich in iron. The day before you donate, get plenty of rest and drink extra fluids. The day you donate, eat a good meal for lunch. If your donation will be more than three hours after your last meal, eat a snack before donating.
Iron-rich foods include: beef, pork, chicken and turkey (dark meat has the most iron), lamb, liver, veal, fish and shellfish, iron-fortified cereals, whole-

grain enriched breads and pasta, lentils, tofu, dried peas and beans, pumpkin & sesame seeds, peanuts, raisins, dried apricots, eggs, green leafy vegetables such as broccoli. Eating a good meal (including iron-rich foods) is important before and after donating blood. Drinking more liquids than usual is also important.

FACEBOOK

We love to share pictures of Saron's ministry on our Facebook page and we get great feedback. It is our practice not to put names with the pictures. If you prefer your family member's picture not to be posted, please let us know, so that we can honor that request.

MEET ME AT THE FREEZER

Freezer meals are available , in the dining room freezer. If you have a neighbor, friend, relative or yourself who needs a "helping hand " in the kitchen, please take a meal. A visit, phone call, or a meal are a great way to show you care!

"God's Work. Our Hands"

Thank you, Outreach Committee

ELCA GOOD GIFTS

Our emphasis during the Lenten season was on water - baptismal and the daily water we use, both essential in sustaining our lives. Saron was once

again very generous in giving to the GOOD GIFTS program.

63 (1,000) water purification tablets
19 donations to feed a refugee family for one week
$631.00 was given to help build irrigation canals
Total: $2,211
Thank you , Outreach, Jan Stevens

Women of the ELCA

Saron Church Women Rummage Sale

Saron Church Women will be having a **Rummage Sale on Saturday, June 10, 2017, from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.** Lots of items are needed for the sale – furniture, tools, books, toys, kitchen items, jewelry, children's clothing, etc. **However, we will not be accepting TVs or computers.** Items may now be brought to the church and placed in the bells practice room across from the newer restrooms Sundays and Monday through Wednesday from 9:00 – 12 noon, although it would be best to call ahead during the week. Receipt forms for claiming the value of your donated items for tax purposes are available in the bells practice room. Valuation guides for items are available on the Goodwill website. Sign-up sheets for helping with the sale will be in the narthex. Profits, after expenses, will be given to Mosaic in Benton Harbor and Samaritas (formerly Lutheran Social Services of Michigan). Thanks for your participation; it's much appreciated. If you have questions, contact Colleen Lundgren or Melanie McCammon.

Deborah Circle will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, June 7, 2017, at the church to begin setting up for the rummage sale.

Deborah Circle will meet at 7:00 p.m. on **Wednesday, June 21, 2017,** at the home of Linda Pater. For those who want to, carpooling will leave the church at 6:30 p.m. Bible study leader will be Denise Cook.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED NEWS!

Church Women United recently gave Saron a memorial donation in honor of Evelyn Maki. Ev was a longtime member, served as President, and received the Valiant Women Award.
Irma Gorman, CWU Rep.

Facilities

HELP NEEDED AFTER SECOND SERVICE

Please consider helping out once every other month with the important job of securing our building after the second service. The job would be to lock all the outer doors, turn off lights and check a few areas in the building. It does not take long and usually you only are assigned once every other month if we have enough help. This is a job that needs to be done and we cannot expect our Pastor to have that responsibility. If you can help or you would like to find out more about the job please contact Janet or Bill Oleson.

Lawn Mowers Needed – There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Volunteers to mow the yards instead of hiring that work out saved the church an estimated $1,100.00 in expenses last year. Please sign-up to help the church save money and keep our grounds looking good. The church has its own lawn mower. Even some high school members

could mow with direction from parents. If you have any questions please see or notify Bill Oleson.

USED INK CARTRIGES NEEDED – Please save your used ink cartridges as it saves the church money in office supplies. Box in Narthex
good fellowship opportunity as well as helping to maintain God's house. Please consider helping and if you have any questions talk to Bill Oleson or Pastor Joan.

Council News

Financial Secretary News

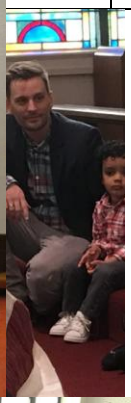
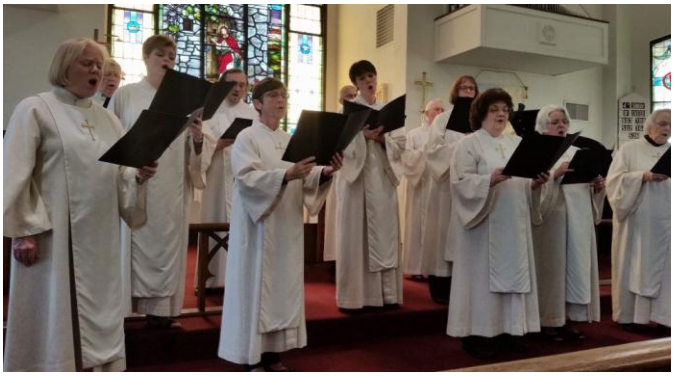
We extend a heart-felt thank you to Denise Cook, who after many years of faithful service as Saron's financial secretary, is stepping down. She is currently training our new financial secretary who is Nanci Fenrick. We welcome Nanci who plans to work in the office on Wednesday afternoons, beginning at approximately 2:30. You can reach Nanci at the office during that time. She is also open to phone calls at 269/845-2595 or an e-mail at **nanci0126@yahoo.com**.

Attendance Record	
04/23/2017	*107*
04/30/2017	*94*
05/07/2717	*83*
05/14/2017	*95*
05/21/2017	*84*

Saron's Council Members – 2017

Karen Hinckley (326-0688) – President
Matt Bradley (419-306-5780) – Vice President
Eric Standen (556-9629) – Treasurer
Mary Kynast (428-0148) – Secretary

Mary Kynast (428-0148) – Worship*
Jack Houser (556-0377) - Learning*
Eric Standen (556-9629) – Facilities*
Brad Frey (921-8618) – Facilities*
Scott Gaspari (847-373-8825) – Youth*
Nolan Becker (269-558-3252) – Youth*
Matt Bradley (419-306-5780) – Support*
Tyler Cook (269-930-2810) – Hospitality*
Judi Huff (473-5075) – Hospitality*
Amy Nelson (920-227-5354) – Outreach*
Joan Oleson (983-1273) office;
983-2475 home) – Pastor **liaison*



SARON LUTHERAN CHURCH
510 MAIN STREET
ST. JOSEPH, MI 49085

Website: www.saronlutheran.org
Email:info@saronlutheran.org

A Congregation of:
The North/West Lower Michigan Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

June 2017

We're on Facebook! Like us at
www.facebook.com/saronlutheranchurchst.joseph

Summer Worship Schedule Begins
May 28, 2017
One service only – 9:30 AM
NO Summer Learning Hour

Saron
June Volunteer Schedule

	June 4 ***Day of Pentecost***	***June 11*** ***The Holy Trinity***	***June 18*** ***Second Sunday of Pentecost***	***June 25*** ***Third Sunday of Pentecost***
	9:30	***9:30***	**9:30**	***9:30***
Assisting minister	Austin Kamala	Wendy King	Connor Ashley	Pauline Ngonyani
Reader/ Intinction	Connie Slater	Dan Fortenbacher	Jan Stevens	Frieda Williams
Ushers	Rebecca Sebrechts and Pat Breyen	Tyler Cook and Krin Jurgensen	Walt and Sally Schmuhl	Brad and Marilyn Frey
Acolytes	Brandon Burrow	Meredith Gacek	Molly Becker	Carter Hohman
Nursery Assistant	Janet Larson	Judi Huff	Marilyn Frey	Janet Oleson
Bldg. close	Keith and Jan Stevens	Dave and Kathie Bradley	Ken Ark	Brad and Marilyn Frey
Snacks				
Flowers	Bob and Deanna Deacon	Dave and Kathie Bradley	Scott and Lindsey Gaspari	Dennis and Colleen Lundgren
Mowing	Weekend of June 5 Bill Oleson	Weekend of June 12	Weekend of June 19	Weekend of June 26 -

June 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Worship at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday with Communion by intinction				**1**	**2**	3
4 Worship at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday with Communion by intinction	**5** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**6** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**7** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 7:00 p.m. Brief mtg. start set up	**8** 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. Work on Rummage sale at church	**9** 9:00 a.m. -5:00 p.m. Work on Rummage sale at church	10 9:00 a.m. Church Rummage Sale
11 Worship at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday with Communion by intinction	**12** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group Newsletter Articles due	**13** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**14** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 6:00 p.m. Summer Beach picnic supper 7:00 p.m. Worship	**15**	**16**	17
18 Worship at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday with Communion by intinction Father's Day	**19** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group 2-6:00 p.m. Blood Drive 7:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	***20*** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park 3:30 p.m. Vasa meeting 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**21** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers 7:00 p.m. Deborah Circle Meeting	**22** 9:30 a.m. Soup Kitchen	**23**	24
25 Worship at 9:30 a.m. each Sunday with Communion by intinction	**26** 11:00 a.m. Prayer Group	**27** 8:30 a.m. Beach Bible Study at Lions Park 6:00 p.m. Men's Bible Study	**28** 9:30 a.m. Golden Hammers	**29**	**30**	